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## CORRESPONDENCE.

*Editor of the American Naturalist:*

SIR, — In his valuable paper on “the Snakes of New York State,” in the February number of the *Naturalist*, Dr. Eckel enumerates two forms as doubtfully occurring in the state upon the authority of Cope who, in his *Crocodilians, Lizards, and Snakes of North America*, records specimens as being in the collection of the National Museum. Dr. Eckel properly doubts the correctness of the statements, and I am in a position to corroborate him.

The first is a specimen of *Osceola doliata clerica*, United States National Museum, No. 1407. The value of the locality “New York” may be inferred from the fact that the specimen was received in 1858 from the Museum d’Histoire Naturelle in Paris, together with No. 1405, *Elaps lemniscatus*, and No. 1406, *Dromicus cursor*,—all three said to have come from New York. It is simply a case of French geography.

The other case is that of a *Natrix fasciata erythrogaster*, United States National Museum, No. 9984, said to have come from Westfield Falls, Conn. In this case the geography is correct enough, but the identification is wrong. I have just examined the specimen; it is a *Natrix sipedon* pure and simple!

Thus Dr. Eckel may safely eliminate Nos. 10 and 13 from his “check list.”

LEONHARD STEJNEGER.

U. S. NATIONAL MUSEUM,  
February 15, 1901.